



# RainScapes Rewards Rebates

RainScapes Rewards projects are designed to reduce stormwater runoff and enhance the local environment. These voluntary projects are funded by the Water Quality Protection Charge (WQPC). RainScapes Rewards projects cannot be used to fulfill a county-required stormwater permit, and only new projects will be considered for a rebate. In order to qualify for a rebate, properties must be located within Montgomery County but outside of the municipalities of Rockville, Gaithersburg, and Takoma Park. (These jurisdictions collect their WQPC separately.)

Project Timeline and Requirements	
1	Read the website and design manual for the specific Rainscapes projects. Please also read our <b>Application Process</b> document.
2	Go to the online application, and fill it out.
3	Submit your RainScapes rebate application. If you don't get an email from <b>RainScapes@montgomerycountymd.gov</b> , then you did not finish your application. If you need help please contact us through that email.
4	If your application contains all the necessary information, you will be contacted by the Department of Environmental Protection to schedule a mandatory preliminary inspection. These inspections are required before project installation can begin.* <small>*No preliminary inspection is needed for rain barrels or tree canopy projects</small>
5	Supporting documents specific to each rebate type will need to be submitted. This can happen before or after the preliminary inspection. Please see the project requirements for a supporting documents list.
6	Once you've passed the preliminary inspection, and all the supporting documents have been reviewed and approved, an application response letter* detailing approval and rebate funding level will be sent. A property owner agreement will also be sent at this time. <small>*Once you receive the approval notice, installation of the project can begin.</small>
7	Projects must be installed within six months of the date of the approval letter. Please don't hesitate to contact us with questions you may have.
8	Once the project is installed, contact the Department of Environmental Protection to schedule a final inspection.
9	At the final inspection, you may receive a list of necessary changes to be made before a rebate can be issued. Completion of any adjustments will need to be photo-documented and emailed to <b>RainScapes@montgomerycountymd.gov</b> . Depending on the number of adjustments, a second final inspection may be necessary.
10	Submit at the end: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Copies of the receipts, itemized and with sales tax subtracted</li> <li>▪ Electronically-signed property owner agreement</li> </ul>
11	Your rebate will be processed for payment after your project passes final inspection and you have submitted receipts and property owner agreement. The rebate check will be issued by the Montgomery County Department of Finance.

Montgomery County, MD  
RainScapes Rewards Rebate  
**Design Criteria and Requirements for Project Eligibility**  
**Conservation Landscape**



**Required Supporting documents:**

- Planting plan with graphic scale showing plant quantities and locations
    - HOA approval letter if applicable
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- Pass preliminary inspection for site suitability
  - Rebate amount:
    - \$2.00 per square foot with no ponding
    - **or** \$3.00 per square foot if installed with berms to provide 3" of ponding
    - **or** \$4.00 per square foot if installed with 6" or greater stone check dams to provide velocity control on steeper sites
  - Maximum rebate:
    - **Residential** - \$2,500.00
    - **Commercial/Institutional** - \$10,000.00
  - Minimum size:
    - **Residential** - 250 square feet
    - **Commercial/Institutional** - 350 square feet
  - Location:
    - On private property
    - Does not significantly alter preexisting flow path
    - Does not back up water onto a neighbor's property
    - Replaces existing turf, invasive plants, or eroded soils
    - Intercepts stormwater from an impervious surface
  - Design/Installation:
    - If creating 3" ponding, size by using the rain garden 'Sizing table for 1 ft planting media' (see back of 'Design Criteria and Requirements for Project Eligibility: Rain Garden') and multiplying the media footprint size by two (double the size of the rain garden).
    - Planting plan showing plant locations submitted and approved
      - Graphic scale on plan
      - Plant list with plant variety, quantity and size.
    - 75% native plants (cultivars are accepted), 25% can be non-native, non-invasive
    - Plant spacing to create full ground coverage within 1-2 years.
    - Soils de-compacted at least 9"
    - Soil amended with 2" of compost
    - 3" of natural, un-dyed mulch
    - No artificial weed matting (newspapers are OK)
  - Final Steps
    - Submit itemized receipts with the tax subtracted
    - Electronically sign and submit the property owner agreement
    - Schedule and pass final inspection